

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/786,697

Applicant(s)

ABRAHAM, MATHEW T.

Examiner

Art Unit

Daniel R. Sellers

2615

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTO-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS**. This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to 12/20/06.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-25, 27 and 28.
3. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All
 - b) Some*
 - c) None of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of
Paper No./Mail Date _____.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Kenneth Smolik on 3/16/07.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the claims, replace claims 12 and 23-25 with:

-- 12. A method for ameliorating acoustic feedback in a multi-channel acoustic system, the multi-channel acoustic system comprising a first channel element and a second channel element, the first channel element being associated with a first acoustic channel and the second channel element being associated with a second acoustic channel, the method comprising:

(a) detecting, by the first channel element, a first acoustic feedback component, wherein the first acoustic feedback component corresponds to a first feedback path from at least one speaker to a first performance microphone, an acoustic source of the first performance microphone and the first performance microphone being located on a same performance stage;

(b) sending, by the first channel element, a first indicator that is indicative of the first acoustic feedback component to the second channel element;

(c) determining a first set of filter parameters;

(d) sending the first set of filter parameters to the second channel element, wherein the first set of filter parameters characterize the acoustic feedback;

(e) adjusting the first channel element to ameliorate the first acoustic feedback component in accordance with the first set of filter parameters and to generate an acoustic signal with reduced feedback from the at least one speaker. --

-- 23. A computer-readable medium having stored computer-executable instructions for performing :

(a) detecting, by the first channel element, a first acoustic feedback component, wherein the first acoustic feedback component corresponds to a first feedback path from at least one speaker to a first performance microphone, an acoustic source of the first performance microphone and the first performance microphone being located on a same performance stage;

(b) sending, by the first channel element, a first indicator that is indicative of the first acoustic feedback component to the second channel element;

(c) determining a first set of filter parameters;

(d) sending the first set of filter parameters to the second channel element, wherein the first set of filter parameters characterize the acoustic feedback;

(e) adjusting the first channel element to ameliorate the first acoustic feedback component in accordance with the first set of filter parameters. --

-- 24. The computer-readable medium of claim 23 having stored computer-executable instructions for further performing:

(f) receiving, by the second channel element, the first indicator from the first channel element;

(g) searching, by the second channel element, for a second acoustic feedback component;

(h) receiving, by the second channel element, the first set of filter parameters; and

- (i) adjusting the second channel element in accordance with the first set of filter parameters. --
- 25. The computer-readable medium of claim 24 having stored computer-executable instructions for further performing:

- (j) detecting, by the second channel element, the second acoustic feedback component;
- (k) determining, by the second channel element, a second set of filter parameters;
- (l) adjusting the second channel element to ameliorate the second acoustic feedback component in accordance with the second set of filter components. --

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-25 and 27-28 are allowed.
2. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Regarding claim 1, Miller teaches a communication link between two automatic equalizers to provide arbitration and/or synchronization of testing frequency generation and response analysis (Col. 7, lines 42-57 and Fig. 5, units 20a, 20b, and 72). Miller does not expand upon the meaning of arbitrating a response analysis or synchronizing a response analysis, therefore the prior art fails to show or suggest a communications pathway between a first channel element and a second channel element, wherein one

of the channel elements informs another channel element about detecting acoustic feedback by providing determined filter parameters, wherein the determined filter parameters characterize the acoustic feedback.

Claims 2-11, 27, and 28 are allowable because they depend on claim 1.

Regarding claim 12, see the preceding reasons of allowability with respect to claim 1. Claim 12 uses similar language as claim 1, and it is allowable because the prior art fails to show or suggest the step of sending a first set of filter parameters, which corresponds to a first channel element associated with a first acoustic channel, to a second channel element associated with a second acoustic channel, wherein the first set of filter parameters characterize the acoustic feedback.

Claims 13-25 are allowable because they depend on claim 12.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Daniel R. Sellers whose telephone number is 571-272-7528. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday, 9am to 5:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sinh Tran can be reached on (571)272-7564. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

DRS


SINH TRAN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER